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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE LAW OF CRIMES By John Wilder May, Chief Justice of the Municipal Court, and Late Prosecuting Officer for Boston. Third Edition edited by Harry Augustus Bigelow, Assistant Professor of Law in the law school of the University of Chicago. Little, Brown & Company, Boston: 1905. 366 pp. Price \$3.00.

Comparatively few lawyers make a specialty of criminal law, but it is safe to say that every lawyer in the course of his practice is now and then consulted in matters which require some knowledge of the Law of Crimes. It is therefore true that even the practitioner who generally confines his practice to civil suits should have in his library a book containing a concise statement of the law governing crimes. Indeed, no lawyer is well equipped without having such a work. May's Criminal Law has for years been considered a scholarly treatment of the subject. It has been used as a text book in the law schools. The present edition is more fully illustrated than former editions by examples of the application of general principles. Citations to recent cases have also been added, with parallel references to the National Reporter System, and to the standard collections of cases on criminal law.

THE AMERICAN STATE REPORTS, containing the Cases of General Value and Authority Subsequent to those Contained in the "American Decisions" and the "American Reports" decided in Courts of Last Resort of the several States. Selected, reported, annotated. By A. C. Freeman. Volume 164. Bancroft-Whitney Company, Law Publishers and Law Booksellers, San Francisco: 1905.

In the great mass of opinions which are now flooding the country it is a blessed thing to have an expert like A. C. Freeman to wade through the bewildering mass and select therefrom those cases illustrative of new principles or illustrating new applications of old principles. If it were not for such series of selected cases as the American State Reports, the task of keeping up with the trend of modern decisions would be hopeless. The present volume contain exhaustive monographic notes on the following subjects: Holographic Wills; What Libelous Statements are Privileged; Presumption of Death; When Time is or May Become of the Essence of Contracts of the Sale of Land; Effect of the Possession of Real Property as Notice; Who are Passengers on Street Railways; Life Insurance; Conflict of Laws Respecting Non-Forfeiture of Policy; Who May Plead the Statute of Limitations; Power of Municipal Corporations to Make and Enforce Regulations Respecting Street Railways for the Protection of the Public; Marriage Brokerage Contracts; Insurable Interest of a Husband in his Wife's Property.